

See *Tourism Award* . . . Page 2

FULL-COURT MESS

In religion class, when forced by Sister Ernestine to read the Book of Mark, my brain couldn't help but twist Jesus' words: "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me . . . but first, how about some hoops?"

Supposedly, my dad was a standout middle-school player. His ambition was altered though when he broke a foot during scrimmage. Likely, he was relieved. Basketball was interfering with his true passion: Smoking cigarettes beneath the bleachers. Had the Indiana High School Athletic Association added a smoking team to its interscholastic competitions, I think Dad would've gone pro. Mom also smoked.

Both parents were hellbent on stunting my growth, as if their dream was to have a son sit the bench.

I was guilted into trying out for the seventh-grade team at our Catholic school. Mom took me to buy sneakers and shorts – and horror of horrors, my first jockstrap – while I secretly prayed that the necessary sizes of each were sold out, thus disqualifying me from tryouts. The only jockstrap remaining was way too big, and I feared I would trip on the court.

Tryouts involved dribbling around demonic mazes of cafeteria chairs. When we actually attempted a real game, though, I froze in mid-dribble without those chairs being on the basketball court. The chairs had

represented the perfect opponent for me, inanimate objects without arms and hands to steal the ball. Now, there were actual humans playing defense. Suddenly, basketball wasn't fun.

I made it to the final day of cuts. I likely would have made the squad had it not been for my buddy Greg. He was cut early but was still part of the team – as STUDENT MANAGER. Greg convinced me that the consolation prize of being STUDENT MANAGER was the way to go. You still took the bus rides and were in the team photo, but you didn't have to shower with the boys. "More importantly," he said, with an it's-good-to-be-king air about him and a devilish Wilt the Stilt glint in his eye, "Girls LOVE stu-

dent managers."

I intentionally missed my layups, bobbled my dribbles, and subsequently, I was invited by the coach to be ASSISTANT STUDENT MANAGER UNDER GREG.

Greg never mentioned the word ASSISTANT to me beforehand. In essence, I had sold my basketball soul to him. Even worse, it became very apparent early on that girls weren't fond of ASSISTANT student managers after all.

In high school, I played on an intramural team called Taylor's Pest Control, the only team to have a mascot. A friend wore a full-sized rat costume and lumbered up and down the court, looking like a crazed, mutant rodent. Sometimes, if someone needed a breather, he would

sub. Unfortunately, the costume's humongous rat head was as inflexible as a deep sea diver's helmet, making it hard to see incoming passes. Our mascot should've been nicknamed "Turn-over." Even an animatronic Chuck E. Cheese would've displayed better on-court dexterity.

When my own son turned eight, I succumbed to the Hoosier dad obligation of buying a basketball goal, one of those Walmart beauties with the water-filled base, wheels, and adjustable height feature. As he grew taller, so did the rim. That's how we Hoosiers measure the height of our children – the rest of the world resorts to pencil marks on doorframes. The goal hogged half the driveway.

Later, when it was no longer cool to play H-O-R-S-E with me, I willingly put my Hoosier identity on the chopping block: I sold the basketball goal to create extra parking space.

In a state where basketball is religion, the sport has never been a big part of my life. That's not to say I don't experience insatiable guilt over my act of Hoosier heresy, especially when I hear the neighbor boy down the street dribbling, each ball bounce sounding like the beat of a tell-tale heart.

Banish me, ye Hoosier brethren, if ye must.

Consider this my mea culpa.

Email Scott at scottsaalman@gmail.com or follow him on Twitter [@SaalmanScott](https://twitter.com/SaalmanScott).

from Page 1

JAZZ

young musicians – with alumni including the likes of GRAMMY-nominated bassist Carlos Henriquez, rising star trumpeter Sumner Camargo, Bon Iver's Justin Vernon, and acclaimed jazz pianist Aaron

Diehl – since the program's founding in 1995.

Noblesville High School will join talented young music students from all walks of life in New York City to compete, network and attend workshops and jam

sessions May 5-7.

Following virtual iterations of the festival in 2020 and 2021, a screening process conducted by prominent jazz educators and musicians including Steve Fidyk, Erica von Kleist, Tatum Greenblatt, and Joseph Jefferson has chosen Noblesville High School as one of the top 15 high school-age jazz bands in the country from a competitive pool of 89 schools, inviting them to New York City to learn, collaborate, perform, and compete for top honors alongside fellow musicians.

"I'm proud of the new students, all *Essentially Ellington* alumni, the band directors, and the level people are playing on. The level and quality of playing is higher every year," said Wynton Marsalis, Managing and Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center. "It has been an honor every single year to work with

the judges and to hear kids play and to participate in their development. I look forward to welcoming this fantastic community back to the House of Swing."

The three-day festival will immerse students in workshops, jam sessions, rehearsals, and performances at the "House of Swing," Frederick P. Rose Hall at Jazz at Lincoln Center. It will also mark the culmination of the annual *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program, which has reached nearly 7,000 schools and independent bands in 55 countries. The program provides students with insight into American vernacular music and jazz, teaches about the communal history of jazz in a sociopolitical context, and builds awareness and appreciation of historical and contemporary jazz musicians.

In conjunction with the national festival each year, the *Essentially Ellington*

program includes non-competitive Regional Festivals around the country and provides schools with free transcriptions of original recordings by Duke Ellington and other seminal big band composers and arrangers, teaching materials, and other free resources. It has also served as a major talent incubator, with many alums going on to form a new generation of professional musicians.

As part of the more than 1,000 digital programs made available by Jazz at Lincoln Center since 2020, the *Essentially Ellington* Festival was held virtually in 2020 and 2021, expanding its reach internationally and connecting high school students to jazz resources and experts online. In 2022, regional festivals will also return as in-person programs in 13 locations, and jazz charts and resources continue to be made available to schools worldwide.

"We are honored to welcome these exceptional schools to Jazz at Lincoln Center for workshops, performances, and competition in the creative and innovative spirit of Duke Ellington," added Todd Stoll, Vice President of Education at Jazz at Lincoln Center. "What's more, this year's in-person festival will be a testament to how much our *Essentially Ellington* community has grown, bringing jazz education to even more schools and students across the country through the expansion of our digital initiatives."

Festival events, including the final concert featuring the top-placing bands and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, will be webcast live. Tickets will be on sale to the public in April. For more information, including background, history, and audio recordings of the *Essentially Ellington* repertoire, visit jazz.org/ee.

from Page 1

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TOURISM AWARD

program linking participants with 40 Hamilton County restaurants offering deals on in-person and take-out dining. The program was a resounding success, with more than 3,000 central Indiana residents signing up over the month.

The Indiana Tourism Awards dinner took place

at the 2022 Indiana Tourism Conference, which took place March 14-16 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton in Noblesville and drew more than 200 tourism industry professionals from around the United States. Nearly 120 attendees enjoyed Hamilton County hospitality at a pre-convention event,

hosted by HCT on the evening of March 14, featuring a ride on the **Nickel Plate Express** excursion train and dinner at signature **down-town Noblesville restaurants**.

About Hamilton County Tourism
Hamilton County Tourism Inc. is a non-

profit, destination management organization that promotes tourism growth through strategic marketing, hospitality and development initiatives providing hospitality to more than 4 million visitors to Hamilton County each year. Learn more at visithamiltoncounty.com.

from Page 1

**PREVAIL**
Advocating for Victims of Crime & Abuse

I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault - it wasn't something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County (nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children). Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don't often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we're breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.

- Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville

To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:

- Individually packaged snacks
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Fishers students take deep dive into city waste



Photos provided by City of Fishers

Fishers Mayor's Youth Academy spent time this week with the city's Department of Public Works that included a tour of the wastewater treatment facility. The students closed out the day by coming up with innovative solutions to the city's snowplow road priorities.



Hello, Hamilton County!



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Judge Bardach to retire in June

By FRED SWIFT
ReadTheReporter.com

Hamilton Superior Court 6 Judge Gail Bardach will retire from the bench in June. The Reporter learned Friday of the pending retirement but was unable to reach the judge for comment on her plans.

Judge Bardach has served 15 years on the bench after having served about 12 years as judge of Carmel City Court. The judge and her husband, Lee,

are both graduates of Indiana University and longtime Carmel residents.

The county court administration office confirmed the retirement plans but could not say if the departure date was June 1, June 30 or some date between. The vacancy will result in the appointing of a judge by Gov. Eric Holcomb. That appointee will



Bardach

fill the unexpired term running through Dec. 31, 2024.

Earlier in her career, Judge Bardach was an assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. On the bench she has been known for her tough stand especially on alcohol and drug cases. She started the County Drug Court designed to get users off drugs.

Friday morning Carmel crash leaves one Kokomo man dead

The REPORTER

At 6:38 a.m. Friday, the Carmel Police and Fire departments responded to a single-vehicle crash at the area of Keystone Avenue and 99th Street.

Based upon the preliminary investigation, a southbound truck loaded with gravel suddenly left the west side of the road and struck a

large tree. The driver of the vehicle, Paul Powell, 51, Kokomo, was pronounced deceased at the scene. A front seat passenger in the vehicle sustained minor injuries in the crash and was transported to a local hospital as a precaution.

The Carmel Fire Department assisted in extricating the victim from the vehicle,

as well as providing medical aid. Southbound Keystone Avenue was closed at 106th Street while the Carmel Police Accident Investigation Team worked the scene. They will be investigating to determine the cause of the crash.

It is unknown at press time if drugs or alcohol were a factor in this crash.

Jeff Jellison for Coroner Endorsed By



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The Reporter

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Westfield spreads luck o’ the Irish



Reporter photo by [JohnGeiger.com](#)
Important Notice: No Shamrocks cheerleaders were dropped in the making of this event!



Reporter photo by [JohnGeiger.com](#)
A certain Victor “The Leprechaun” McCarty was running about playing tricks on young Shamrocks.



Reporter photo by [JohnGeiger.com](#)
Westfield Welcome featured a “Lucky Duck Pluck” activity for the kids.



Reporter photo by [JohnGeiger.com](#)
Shamrock Drop’s presenting sponsor, Indiana Members Credit Union, had a “cash cube” on site containing various prizes from local businesses.



Texas Hold'em



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Dresses and Dreams

Dresses and Dreams is a nonprofit organization aimed at providing Prom dresses, accessories, and services free of charge for Hamilton Heights High School students. As a junior at Hamilton Heights High School, my vision for Dresses and Dreams is to help provide an unforgettable Prom experience for classmates in need. I have been provided a space at Hamilton Heights High School within the Husky Fan Shop. Students may come try on dresses and shop for the perfect accessories at no charge. Also, there will be alterations, hair styles, and manicures available free of charge. I will be accepting dresses, shoes, accessories and monetary donations. All donations and proceeds go directly to Dresses and Dreams to help the HHHS students.

To help or donate to Dresses and Dreams

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Indiana’s public health emergency executive order has ended, but patients still in need of direct access to APRNs

On March 4, Indiana’s COVID-19 public health emergency executive orders, first authorized in March 2020 by Governor Holcomb, came to an end. These executive orders have been vital in combating the COVID-19 pandemic and, importantly, empowering advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to significantly strengthen Hoosiers’ access to health care across the state.

It is clear that patients directly benefited from the temporary suspension of these regulatory barriers for APRNs. The executive order reduced wait times for care, enabled underserved patients to receive care closer to home, allowed APRNs to travel where they are most needed and removed regulatory roadblocks – at no cost to the taxpayer. This proved to be a boon to Hoosiers’ health and access. Given the state’s ongoing primary care access crisis and the continuing pandemic, it is time for the state legislature to repeal these outdated regulations permanently, giving Hoosiers the option to choose APRN-provided health care year-round, not only during a public health emergency.

Under current law, the state’s nearly 8,000 educated and clinically trained, nationally certified and state-licensed APRNs are also required to sign a contract with a physician – known as a “collaborative practice agreement” – in order to deliver patient care. Far from professional collaboration,



DR. ANGELA THOMPSON

these contracts are a condition of APRN practice, and the contracting physician retrospectively reviews a small subset of patient charts for “quality assurance.” The contracted physician is not involved with patient care, and in fact, is likely not present when care is delivered. According to the congressionally chartered National Academy of Medicine, states should empower nurses to work to the top of their profession. The Federal Trade Commission has repeatedly found these contracts to be anti-competitive. Today, over 2.1 million Hoosiers lack access to essential primary health care services in their community. The federal government has designated 117 health care provider shortage areas across the state. If that wasn’t bad enough, The United Health Foundation’s 2021 America’s Health Ranking put Indiana an alarming 36th among all states when it comes to health care access, quality and other measures.

In that same United Health Foundation ranking, nine out of the top 10 healthiest states have removed regulations restricting access to care provided by nurse practitioners (NPs), which represent the largest APRN segment in Indiana. In total, 24 states, the District of Columbia, the national VA health system, and two U.S. territories have removed these regulations and have seen increased access to care for their states. Unfortunately,

our state legislature has yet to follow suit. Permanently removing these regulations will ensure that APRNs are able to deliver the care they were educated, clinically trained, and certified to provide, expanding access to health care for patients across the state. Giving Hoosiers direct access to APRN care will also give the state’s citizens more choice in selecting a health care provider that meets their needs. APRNs are more available, provide more personal attention, and provide a patient-centered, prevention-focused, holistic approach to care. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have relied on Indiana’s APRNs to establish and staff COVID-19 testing centers, administer vaccines in underserved communities, and care for patients in primary care, home health, telehealth, nursing home, and hospitals and intensive care settings. As we look forward to better days ahead, we urge our policymakers to permanently grant patients direct access to the high-quality care APRNs deliver. It’s a no-cost, no-delay solution to ensure Hoosiers affordable, accessible health care everywhere.

Dr. Thompson is the President of the Coalition for Advanced Practice Nurses of Indiana (CAPNI) and is a Family Nurse Practitioner specializing in the care of adolescents and adults with diabetes for the last 19 years. Her current clinical practice is within a hospital-based endocrinology clinic in Danville, Ind.

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Looking for Peace in the Midst of Turbulent Times?

Flying with eagles? Running and not getting tired? Sound good? To do these things I will need to change my glasses so I look at things the way God does. Rather than looking through glasses that are focused on the material, physical world, I need to look at the unseen spiritual world and things eternal. By so focusing my vision, I see that which is truly important and eternal.

He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:29-31)

Do you want to live a peaceful contented life flying with eagles, then turn your eyes and heart to Jesus? Open your heart and listen to Him. Embrace the truth He revealed. Turn your life to Jesus! The good folks at the Stony Creek Church of Christ would be delighted to study with you at a time of your convenience and a place of your convenience. Or, attend one of our services and begin your flight with eagles.

Stony Creek Church of Christ
 Sunday Bible Study 10:00 am
 Sunday Worship 11:00 am
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

Carmel’s Center for Performing Arts site of U.S. naturalization ceremony

Inspiring event will stream live on Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo March 23

The REPORTER

Approximately 80 Indiana residents from nations around the world will receive their U.S. citizenship Wednesday, March 23, when the Center for the Performing Arts plays host to its third naturalization ceremony at the Palladium.

For this stately but joyous and inspiring event, the concert hall will become a temporary venue of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, encompassing the southern two-thirds of the state. The presiding judge will administer the Oath of Allegiance to foreign-born individuals who have met all application criteria for citizenship, as identified by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The 1 p.m. ceremony will include remarks from the judge and from Center President/CEO Jeffrey C. McDermott, as well as music from the Indiana Wind

Symphony, one of the Center’s Resident Companies.

Although attendance is limited to family and friends, the Center will provide a free livestream on its Center’s [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Vimeo](#) pages.

Becoming a U.S. citizen takes time and effort. In order to enjoy the rights and privileges of citizenship, among other criteria, applicants must:

- Be lawful permanent residents (green card holders) at least 18 years of age;
- Have resided in the United States as a lawful permanent resident for at least five years;
- Be of good moral character;
- Be able to speak, read, write and understand the English language;
- Have knowledge of U.S. government and history and demonstrate attachment to the principles of the Constitution.



Photo courtesy Rob Slaven / Indy Ghost Light
Naturalization candidates take the Oath of Allegiance during a 2020 naturalization ceremony at the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

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Westfield Middle School cheer tryouts set for March 31

The REPORTER

Westfield Middle School will hold tryouts for fall cheer March 29-31 in the North Gym.

There will be two days of clinic where interested students will learn material for tryouts. Tryouts will be

on March 31.

Students must be in sixth or seventh grade and be passing all classes to try out for the squad. Two teacher recommendations are also required.

[Click here](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to apply.

UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

Horton Road north of
199th Street to close Monday

A section of Horton Road just north of 199th Street will be closed beginning Monday, March 21 for three days for a sanitary crossing project. Please use caution in this area and follow the direction of detour signage.

Re-Elect Joe Arrowood
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Meeting Notice

The Carmel Plan Commission Commercial Committee will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, in the Caucus Rooms on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square, Carmel.

Send Meeting
Notices to:

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ReadTheReporter.com

— WESTFIELD —

NOTICE

The City of Westfield will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. on March 28, 2022 on Ordinance 22-09 introduced at the Westfield City Council meeting held on February 14, 2022. If passed, Ordinance 22-09 would create a Local Historic Preservation Commission in Westfield, Indiana. The public hearing will be held at Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana. Those interested in the proceedings may speak at the public hearing in person or may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Commission at planners@westfield.in.gov until 4:30 p.m., local time, March 28, 2022, or by mailing such comments to the Westfield Community Development Department, 2728 E 171st St. Westfield, IN 46074. Mailed comments must be received by 4:30 p.m., local time, on March 28, 2022.

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Register for charity golf outing for Sheridan youth

The REPORTER

Sheridan Youth Assistance Program supporters ... Are you dreaming of warmer days on the golf course? Registration is now open for the SYAP Charity Golf Tournament scheduled for June 6. Secure your spot today by visiting youthassistance.org/sheridan-news.

The Charity Golf Tournament will begin a shotgun start at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 6 at Purgatory Golf Club, 12160 E. 216th St., Noblesville. With your help, SYAP will be able to raise a generous amount of money for the youth and their families in the Sheridan community.



Register

as an individual, a team or be a sponsor. You can download the registration and sponsor form at [this link](#). The form includes all necessary information, including prices. **Please note that the \$3,000 and \$2,500 sponsorship levels**

have been filled.

The event will be a full 18 holes of golf and will include lunch and appetizers, door and raffle prizes, and four Hole in One Vacation Prizes. Money brought in from this summer event will be used to fund the needs of the Sheridan youth and provide positive opportunities students will not have access to without your support.

Carmel bar at center of controversy moves closer to reopening

By DEMIE JOHNSON

WISH-TV | wistv.com

A Carmel bar that has been shut down for almost a year is a step closer to reopening.

The Goat, or the Greatest of all Taverns, has been at the center of controversy since it first opened in 2020.

The Carmel City Council at its recent meeting approved a request to rezone the property. It changes the bar from a residential use to a business one.

In Carmel's Midtown, the Goat closed about a year ago after the city received numerous complaints including loud noise, trespassing on neighboring properties, and people urinating outside the bar.

During that time, the city and the owner discovered the bar had been improperly zoned.

Carmel City Councilor Jeff Worrell voted in favor of the rezoning. He said it came with several restrictions, including renovations to the



Worrell



Aasen



Hannon

bar such as adding additional restrooms, enclosing the outdoor area, and doing away with outdoor speakers.

"I feel like we're giving them a second chance, but we really tightened down some restrictive covenants in order to make this work," Worrell said. "Very, very different kind of operation than what the Goat was and what we all remember and what turned out to be not what our community wanted."

Councilor Adam Aasen was on the fence at first, but said after hearing the updates, he ended up voting "yes" to the rezoning.

"I actually voted 'no' at the committee level because

I wanted to see a little more when it comes to shortening hours and making sure that we really noise-proof the place," Aasen said. "So, I really do have to give credit to the petitioner for their willingness to work with the city and their desire to make something that would be a community asset."

Tim Hannon was the one councilor to vote against the rezoning. He said the bar does not belong in the area. He said its reopening could impact not just neighbors but several city departments such as police and code enforcement.

"I'm certainly empathetic to the owners, but what my

fellow councilors did is try to put in commitments that hopefully will be met by the owner but here again, back to that square peg in a round hole, had this been a good fit, we wouldn't have had to do all that work," Hannon said.

As for what happens next, neighbor Spencer Daymude says only time will tell.

"I think adding more bathrooms will make a difference as that will give people more options to go to the bathroom instead of just running outside when they're drunk or whatever may happen," Daymude said. "I think closing the porch will help somewhat; however, it probably won't stop many people. It's just an enclosed porch, and you can just walk outside either way."

The bar will also have new hours. Alcohol will only be served until 11:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and until 12:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday. In the past, The Goat was open until 3 a.m., a common closing time for bars.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

1 Timothy 4:1-10 (NIV)

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Contact Information

Phone

765-365-2316

Email

News@ReadTheReporter.com

Web Address

ReadTheReporter.com

Publisher Stu Clampitt

765-365-2316

Sports Editor Richie Hall

Rhall1977@gmail.com

Twitter: @Richie_Hall

Public Notices

PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com

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Noblesville's Ashlynn Shade, Fishers' Hailey Smith, HSE's Riley Makalusky named Junior All-Stars

Three Hamilton County basketball players are among the 18 players that have been selected for the IndyStar Indiana girls Junior All-Stars for 2022, All-Stars games director Mike Broughton announced Friday.

Ashlynn Shade of Noblesville is one of the players selected to the six-player Core Group. The list also includes Laila Hull of Zionsville, McKenna Layden of Northwestern, Karsyn Norman of Bedford North Lawrence, and RaShunda Jones and Amiyah Reynolds of South Bend Washington.

In addition to the core group, six players each were voted to teams labeled Red Group and Blue Group. Two more county players are members of the Red Group: Riley Makalusky of Hamilton Southeastern and Hailey Smith of Fishers.

The other Red Group players are Asiah Baxter of Warren Central, Saige Stahl of Columbus East, Josie Trabel of East Central and Amber Tretter of Forest Park.

The Blue Group players are Ashlynn Brooke of Pioneer, Cristen Carter of Ben Davis, Asia Donald of Hobart, Bailey Kelham of Garrett, MaKaya Porter of Mishawaka Marian and Renne Schwieterman of Jay County.

Bob Lapadot of Garrett will be the head

See All-Stars . . . Page 10



Kirk Green/File photo

Hamilton Southeastern's Riley Makalusky (left) is one of 18 players that was named to the Indiana girls Junior All-Stars team on Friday. Makalusky will play in the Red Group during June's All-Star games. Also pictured are Fishers' Talia Harris (center) and Tigers coach Lauren Votaw.



Kent Graham/File photo

ABOVE: Noblesville's Ashlynn Shade was selected to the Core Group, which will play both of the All-Star games in June.

RIGHT: Fishers' Hailey Smith was selected to the Red Group.



Kirk Green/File photo

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HCC announces All-Conference teams

The Hoosier Crossroads Conference released its 2022 winter All-Conference teams this week.

Here is a list of conference honorees in each sport.

BOYS BASKETBALL

First Team

Avon: Chrishon McCray.
Brownsburg: Kanon Catchings, Shon Tupuola.
Fishers: Jalen Haralson, Jeffrey Simmons, Charlie Smith.
Franklin Central: Rynell Echols.
Hamilton Southeastern: Sam Jacobs.
Noblesville: Luke Almodovar, Aaron Fine.
Westfield: Braden Smith.
Zionsville: Logan Imes, Nick Richart.

Second Team

Avon: Jordan Lomax.
Brownsburg: Elhadj Diallo, Grant Porath.
Fishers: Bryce Williams.
Franklin Central: Bryan Marshall.
Hamilton Southeastern: Reph Stevenson.
Noblesville: Preston Roberts, E.J. Smith.
Westfield: Cam Haffner.
Zionsville: Isaiah Davis, Johnathan Macabee.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

First Team

Avon: Aniah Smith.
Brownsburg: Kailyn Terrell.
Fishers: Talia Harris, Hailey Smith, Olivia Smith.
Franklin Central: Lily Graves.
Hamilton Southeastern: Olivia Brown, Riley Makalusky.
Noblesville: Ashlynn Shade, Reagan Wilson.

Westfield: Alyssa Crockett, Olivia Robey.
Zionsville: Allie Caldwell, Laila Hull.

Second Team

Brownsburg: Miya Webb.
Fishers: Alycia Triplett.
Hamilton Southeastern: Makayla Hinshaw, Maya Makalusky.
Noblesville: Kaitlyn Shoemaker, Meredith Tippner.
Westfield: Hailey Remaks, Chesney Tebbe.
Zionsville: Mallory Heerd, Faith Leedy.

BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING

Brownsburg: Jamie Cameron, Jake Johnson, Caleb Peschke, JJ Schmidt.
Fishers: Conner Carlile, William Jansen, Kyle Ponsler.
Zionsville: Gabe Berry, Jack Donovan, Charlie Krone, Walter Mattice, Will Modglin, Will Raches.

GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING

Fishers: Kalli Agapios, Nalanie Cortez, Kate Mouser, Jo Jo Ramey, Avery Stein.
Hamilton Southeastern: Audrey Crawford, Kennedy Fisher, Grace Newton, Ash Saple.
Zionsville: Devon Kitchel.

WRESTLING

Avon: Landon Boe, Cheaney Schoeff.
Brownsburg: Gavin Garcia, Braden Haines, Preston Haines, Jake Hockaday, Leighton Jones, Logan Miller.
Franklin Central: Aataveon Jordan.
Hamilton Southeastern: Ryan Cast.
Noblesville: Jacob Long.
Zionsville: Brac Hooper, Vincent McDonald, Anthony Richart.

Westfield college signings

Photo courtesy Westfield High School

Sophie McGinnis, golf Butler University



ALL-STARS

from Page 9

coach of the 2022 girls Junior All-Stars. He will be assisted by Tony Hasenour of Forest Park. Lapadot guided Garrett to a 27-2 record and a Class 3A semi-state appearance this past season. He has a 179-79 record in 11 seasons with the Railroaders. Hasenour led Forest Park to a 26-3 ledger, including the Class 2A state championship. He has a 104-48 mark in six seasons with the Rangers.

The Junior All-Stars will play one game against the Kentucky Junior All-Stars on Sunday, June 5 at Bedford North Lawrence. The Junior All-Stars also will play one game against the Indiana All-Star senior girls on Wednesday, June 8 at a site to be announced. Both games will be doubleheaders with the 2022 Indiana boys Junior All-Stars, who will be chosen later in March.

The players listed as core group players each will play in two games. The players listed in the Red and Blue groups each will play in one game, the Red Group on June 5 against the Kentucky Juniors and the Blue Group on June 8 against the Indiana Seniors.

The Indiana senior All-Stars will play the Kentucky senior All-Stars on June 10 at the Owensboro Sportscenter in Owensboro, Ky. The Indiana senior All-Stars will play Kentucky's seniors again on June 11 in Southport Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. The senior game in Indianapolis again is set for Southport in 2022 because Gainbridge Fieldhouse will be undergoing a third phase of renovations and not be available in June.

The 2022 Girls Junior All-Star team was selected through a process that allows all

IBCA-member head coaches to nominate players through the IBCA all-state process. The IBCA 20-member Indiana Basketball Coaches Association all-state committee reviewed and voted on players for the 2022 IBCA/Franciscan Health girls All-State teams that were released on March 1.

The 20 all-state committee members also provided input to a seven-person IBCA subcommittee appointed by IBCA executive director Steve Witty and chaired by Brandon Bradley of Kankakee Valley. Bradley, Broughton, All-Star junior coordinator Beth DeVinney plus coaches Katie Collignon of Marquette Catholic, Kaley May of Daniville, Gretchen Miles of Washington and all-state committee chairman Doug Springer of Northridge finalized the selections for the 2022 girls Junior All-Stars.

The Indiana Junior All-Star program was founded in 1996 by former Indiana All-Star games director Patrick Aikman. In most years, 18 players have been chosen to the Junior All-Stars. In five years (2005, 2006, 2007, 2018 and 2019), 24 players were chosen to the Junior All-Stars. In 2021, just 12 players were chosen to the Junior All-Stars.

In games from 1996 through 2021 (with no games in 2020 because of COVID-19), the Indiana Senior girls lead the Indiana Junior girls 40-10 and the Indiana Senior boys lead the Indiana Junior boys 40-10. In five years of games against the Kentucky Juniors, the Indiana Junior girls lead 9-1 and the Indiana Junior boys lead 6-4. Games against the Kentucky Juniors previously have been played in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2018 and 2019.

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ray@noblesvilleattorney.com
seth@noblesvilleattorney.com
zech@noblesvilleattorney.com
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NBA standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic	W	L	PCT.	GB
Philadelphia	43	26	.623	-
Boston	43	28	.606	1.0
Toronto	39	31	.557	4.5
Brooklyn	37	34	.521	7.0
New York	30	40	.429	13.5
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Milwaukee	44	26	.629	-
Chicago	41	29	.586	3.0
Cleveland	40	30	.571	4.0
Indiana	24	47	.338	20.5
Detroit	19	51	.271	25.0
Southeast	W	L	PCT.	GB
Miami	47	24	.662	-
Atlanta	35	35	.500	11.5
Charlotte	35	35	.500	11.5
Washington	29	40	.420	17.0
Orlando	18	53	.254	29.0

x - clinched playoff spot y - clinched division title

Western Conference

Northwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Utah	44	26	.629	-
Denver	42	29	.592	2.5
Minnesota	41	30	.577	3.5
Portland	26	43	.377	17.5
Oklahoma City	20	50	.286	24.0
Pacific	W	L	PCT.	GB
x-Phoenix	57	14	.803	-
Golden State	47	23	.671	9.5
L.A. Clippers	36	37	.493	22.0
L.A. Lakers	30	40	.429	26.5
Sacramento	25	47	.347	32.5
Southwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Memphis	48	23	.676	-
Dallas	43	27	.614	4.5
New Orleans	29	41	.414	18.5
San Antonio	27	44	.380	21.0
Houston	17	53	.243	30.5

Pacers bounce back with win at Houston

By BRENDAN ROURKE
Courtesy nba.com/pacers

Coming off a tough loss against the Memphis Grizzlies, the Pacers looked to bounce back against a rebuilding Houston Rockets squad Friday night.

After Indiana secured a five-point half-time lead, things took an all-too-familiar turn for the worse in the third. Houston outscored the squad 39-22 in the stanza and took a 95-83 lead into the fourth quarter. However, Indiana (24-47) flipped the script in the final frame. Using a late pair of tough buckets from Goga Bitadze, the squad scratched and clawed its way to a 121-118 victory over the Rockets (17-53) at Toyota Center.

Bitadze's clutch points capped off another perfect night for the young center. Starting in relief of Isaiah Jackson (concussion protocol), he finished with a career-high 23 points on 9-of-9 shooting, including three triples.

"It's always good to get the win," Bitadze said. "I took two games off. So, coming back, playing good, and getting this win was good for (my) confidence. And for the team as well."

"When Goga plays like that, it's hard to beat us," Malcolm Brogdon added. The veteran guard dropped a team-high 25 points — 19 in the second half — on 11-of-19 shooting in the win.

Another Pacers youngster also shined. Jalen Smith tallied 17 points and 10 boards from the bench, but his night ended in the third quarter due to injury. Four others finished in double figures for Indiana as well.

Indiana's early success came from driving the lane and finishing in the paint. The early highlight came from Tyrese Haliburton, who slammed home a backdoor pass from Oshae Brissett in stride. At the 8:15 mark, Brogdon's first bucket earned a 10-9

Pacers advantage before the first timeout.

After play resumed, Houston grabbed a five-point lead on a Kevin Porter Jr. three with 3:37 left. The look came after the Pacers committed their third turnover of the frame. However, the squad regrouped and mounted a 6-0 spree — four from Duane Washington Jr. — to grab a 22-21 edge.

Smith's second bucket — a tip dunk — snagged a 28-25 lead with 1:18 remaining. But Houston took advantage of a pair of Pacers turnovers in the final minute to score seven unanswered points. The hosts took a 32-28 lead into the second quarter.

The Blue & Gold appeared to turn things around early in the second. The squad started the frame with a 9-2 run, including five straight from Bitadze, to earn a 37-34 lead with 9:24 left. Lance Stephenson collected assists on all four buckets of the spree.

Houston tied with Indiana twice but could not lead as the midway mark passed. When Dennis Schroder knotted things up at 42, Buddy Hield and Brogdon nailed back-to-back threes to earn a 48-42 lead with 5:36 remaining.

When Houston threatened again, Smith made sure the Pacers stayed on top. The young forward went to work from all areas of the floor. Leading 54-51, Smith doubled Indiana's lead with a 26-foot trey from the left side. After a Houston miss, he snagged his ninth rebound of the half. Then, with 1:33 to play, he worked the paint and finished a nifty hook to stretch the edge to 59-51. Indiana took a 61-56 lead into halftime.

The Pacers' common miscues reared their ugly head again in the third. Two turnovers in the first 90 seconds helped Houston score eight straight and take a three-point lead. Brogdon broke the streak with a layup. However, the Rockets added five more to secure a 69-63 advantage. Indiana called timeout with 9:30 left.

Houston stretched their lead to as many as nine before Indiana came charging back. Trailing 74-68 with eight minutes left, Washington and Brissett sandwiched a Porter Jr. bucket to create a four-point swing that cut the gap to two. However, Wood sank his third triple of the frame to stop the momentum once more. The bucket earned a 79-74 Houston lead.

Indiana managed to cut the deficit to one with 4:58 left. But a scary sight derailed their run. Battling Wood in the paint, Smith took an inadvertent shoulder to the chin, sending him to the floor. The incident interrupted the squad's defensive flow, leading to a wide-open Jalen Green three. Smith was helped to the locker room during the next stoppage and never returned.

The bump to Smith caused Indiana to be shorthanded in the frontcourt, and Houston capitalized. The hosts finished the frame with eight unanswered points and took a 95-83 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Blue & Gold started hot in the fourth quarter, knocking in seven unanswered over the first 2:13 to trim the double-digit defi-

cit to five. But, the Rockets regrouped after a timeout, scoring four straight to give the game a 99-90 score with 8:53 left.

Indiana trimmed the deficit to four as the midway mark approached. But, Houston stifled that rally with five straight. After a timeout, the squad regrouped again. Trailing 106-97, the Pacers rattled off eight unanswered to cut the gap to 106-105 with 4:17 remaining. Hield and Brogdon anchored the spree with back-to-back threes.

Houston managed to stay in front for the next 3:09. But Bitadze finally tied the game at 115 with a monstrous slam through a foul. Unfortunately, he missed the ensuing free throw.

Nonetheless, the big man came right back and did it again. With 19.2 seconds left, the third-year center snagged the offensive board and banked in a layup through contact, giving the Pacers a 117-115 edge. Houston had one final chance to respond.

With six seconds remaining, Porter Jr. tried to drive the lane but came up empty. Hield gathered the rebound and sealed the deal at the free-throw line on the other end.

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